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PSYCHE'S INTERLUDES.

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PSYCHE'S INTERLUDES.

BY

C. B. CAYLEY,

OF THE TRANSLATORS OF "DANTE'S COMEDY."

"Schönste Seelen Albion's,
Murmelt euch der Dichter;
Höchste Geister Albion's,
Euch anstaunt der Redner."

DEUTSCHE ANTHOLOGIE.

LONDON:

LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, LONGMANS, & ROBERTS.

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PSYCHE'S INTERLUDES.

TITANIA'S RÉVEILLÉE.

Anima semplicetta!—*Dante.*

'Tis the verdant hill embosomed in the deep and sea-beat vale,
Coped with heather, like the rainbow's marge, for purple pure and pale.
'Tis the moonlight, yea, the moonlight, floods with lustre land and sea,
'Tis the copse of oaks fantastic seems to dance abroad for glee,
While between its warpèd branches, while between its jaggèd leaves,
From the moon, that smiles or smiles not, golden threads and dusk it weaves.

Waken, wake, O queen of moonlight; earth and skies are beckoning thee,
Through their smiling and unsmiling; raise thy films, and isle-wards flee.
Still our glens, by fairies haunted, unto Celtic faith give heed,
Still their oaks, their moonlit evenings consecrate with fairy creed,
Still are worthy thy appearing; haste! we spy thy dancers free,
Leaving signs in softer verdure, where they've lilted round a tree.
All their robes are woven silver, wooers of the white moonbéam,
And the splendour of thy revel is the stillness of a dream.
Keep, O scene, thy moveless glitter; keep, O west-wind, thy repose;
Ravish not one leaf that flickers on the oft-bereavèd rose.
Let no owlet call his whooping brother up from hollow tree;
Gray moth, sink on plume besilvered! let no sudden meteor flee
Thwarting heaven upon his bright hest; let no bat cóme like a shade
Nigh that covert, soft and leafy, where your paths of Grace ye braid,
Where the Foot, no guess may follow, bears the brilliant on thy brow,
Till the wreathèd mist is rising, till the bird is heard on bough,
Till the stir of life awakens; fade then out of mortal ken;
But unseen, with power benignant, glide above the paths of men.

PLUTO TAKING LEAVE OF PROSERPINE.

"Victima eras miserantis Orci!"

THE smiled-on tears of April cease,
  Forth goes the gracious May;
Blue flowers and yellow her foot's touch follow;
  Must Enna's Nymph away?

Three moons, my Queen, for change of scene?
  Three more to be returning?
While pouts the rose, the wall-fruit glows,
  The Autumn tints are burning?

While swards are bright round lambkins white,
  Till blaze the poppied wheat,
Till bare feet brown tread Bacchus down,
  Till melting figs are sweet,

With sunbeams kind, and soft west-wind,
  Our brother Jove befriend thee!
But think I dwell in lacklife Hell,
  Think if my soul attend thee!

PROSERPINE RECALLED.

"Quâ neque permaneant Vitæ, neque corpora nostra,
Sed quædam Simulacra modeis pallentia mireis."

THE wild winds gather; on blue shrunk heather
Faint all the gauze-winged swarms;
The red bough sickens, the cold cloud thickens,
And flash the flooding storms.

The broad fog breathes, the dim wave seethes,
The mariner's darling prays;
From bare damp earth flee life and mirth
At fresh-lit fires to gaze.

Turn, wandering dove, that hast no grove
  On earth, nor ark on sea,
Nor men's abodes, nor courts of gods
  To nest in, save with me.

This porch eterne thy step must learn,
  This twilight blanch thy brow
To statelier pale, these ghosts must hail
  Their breathing Empress now !

Regard thy bowers of changeless flowers,
  The elms no steel can splinter,
The fruit, whose taste amongst us placed
  Thy Life for every winter.

Thy crown regard, by time unmarred,
  Thy people's crescent flow
That spreads through all the unguest-filled hall,
  That ne'er an ebb will know.

For us they fought, vowed, sold, and bought;
  For us their brides they wooed;
Across thy haunts their olive plants
  Must one and all be strewed.

Regard our faith, love lockt in death,
  The porphyry column's fire,
The Soul-king's pride, his spear-won bride
  To guard from e'en thy Sire.

DAPHNE TRANSFORMED.

"So the Sun hasted not to go." — *Book of Jashar.*

"Cui Laurus eternos Honores!" — *Horace.*

When fell the giants' host from heaven,
  Ere Jove his exiles all
Could homeward hail, in Tempe's dale
  There dwelt a herdsman tall.

His arms were stout, his frame throughout
  Was fine, as art can mould;
His face was round; his locks unbound
  A fountain seemed of gold.

His glowing cheek — what tongue may speak
  The affections it could move?
His eyes shot fire; he played the lyre
  Like demigods in love.

No neighbouring girl her lip could curl,
  Whom he vouchsafed to court;
Nor much he sued, perhaps, but wooed
  Half of them half in sport.

Such themes belong to a Bacchic song;
  But mine far upward ranges!
For earnest bards sing true regards,
  And love's delayed revenges.

One April night, a soft delight
  Showered from the deep-veiled moon;
His sister's face could Phœbus trace,
  And vowed, "I'll back thee soon!

"No more shall Titans be let loose
To whirl each radiant car!
Fall'n are the vast Lads, fall'n by Zeus —
And We the Victors are!

"Farewell, O cows! where next ye browse
I will not mind a rattle.
It profits more to rein *the* Four,
My spitfire, dangerous cattle.

"I'll yoke my steeds, I'll sing my deeds
In mid Olympian Agora!
This night no sleep my lids would keep —
For poppy nor mandragora!

"O silver beams, upon the streams
Of Peneus hardly broken!
Airs, that just rouse the myriad boughs
Of Tempe much-bespoken,

"Dews gently falling — your softest calling
Would snap the cobweb fine
Of sleep from brains possest with trains
Of mounting thoughts like mine."

He doft his clothes, he 'gan repose
His stalwart limbs, half waking,
Where dawn then tript, rose-finger-tipt,
With songs his trellis shaking.

To greet his Dame, light Zephyr came,
Bold Zephyr, loving kisses,
Who shakes the Dryad, from whom the Naïad
Her torrent's fulness misses.

In front were swarms of vapory forms,
Caprice-winged, thousand-hued,
That sink like flies on slumbering eyes
Or maiden-bosoms nude,

True-warning dreams, as Orpheus deems,
  That from the gate less white
Through Jove's high cares, or at the prayers
  Of tender souls take flight.

What shapes molest thy beauty's rest,
  To knit thy brows with care?
O nymph serene, and seldom seen,
  Peneïan Daphne rare!

Thy prest lips moan; where closed thy zone
  With hard quick pant it heaves;
Thy smooth knee stirs, thy small hand errs,
  Thy cheek a fire conceives.

Slow from those eyes the lids arise,
  Smooth, leaf-shaped, violet-veined;
Light from her bed she glanced, and said,
  "My goat her foot hath sprained."

She wraps in haste, and girds her waist,
  In draperies white she issues,
That fold and ripple, from knee to nipple,
  Between the rosier tissues.

Her locks upturned, her bath adjourned,
  From copse to cliff she wanders;
From ridge to vale, on every gale
  Her voice's wealth she squanders.

She rambled hither, and scrambled thither;
  She never had found her beast;
But she was aware of a herdsman fair
  Came striding toward the east.

"Rejoice*," was said; and "Thou too, maid!"
  One passed, one gazed and stood,
Stung by the stature and the blush
  And movement that he viewed.

* In our originals Χαῖρε — Καὶ σὺ κούρη.

Yet promptly, "Guide, O Nymph," he cried,
"Thy country's guest, for pity;
A *barbarous* youth, who seeks, in truth,
Delphi's oracular city.

"Thereof to learn did I now turn
From yon direction, hearing
Thy strains discreet, as passing sweet,
My doubt in hopes of clearing."

Quoth she, "O guest, if thou'rt addrest
To Delphi, go straight on there,
And cross the rill, and towards that hill;
Thou find'st the road anon there."

"Great thanks," he cried, "O Jove-sent guide;
Thy words are deep and shrewd;
Thou seem'st no less a Pythoness
Than she, whom Phœbus wooed.

"This road I'd reach, but who's to teach
Whether of my hands to follow then?
Step with me, pray, thy stately way,
Down through that verdant hollow then."

Her face that smiled she waved; "O child
Of barbarous kings," replied she,
"Lo, morn emerges, and me time urges,
Else anxious to oblige thee.

"Ere day spread clear, I must round here,
To bind with leaves my tresses,
And in pure wave my body lave,
And cull my water-cresses,

"Which most with cheese my father please."
"O heaven-like, sure a daughter
Of Jove," said he; "I'll wend with thee,
To guard from hooves the water,

"And ascertain that no profane ——"
Quoth she, "I'm not aware
That men give sheep to wolves to keep,
Or maids to strangers' care!"

"O too austere, put off that sneer,
And raise me up no mountain
Of falsehoods; I will soon descry
Thy lover near that fountain."

She cried, "Oimoí! thou dog-faced boy,
Whose like no well-zoned lass
Conceived or bare, but Smiths prepare
Of bright, sonorous Brass!"

"If thou'rt in want, I would not taunt,"
Said he, "a girl forsaken!
I'd with thee play myself to-day,
If he's another taken."

"Scythian!" she said, "the Doric maid
Is more considerate, whether
With one she play, that hers will stay,
Or durst with more forgather."

She bounds aside; the deep ferns hide
Her flying tracks uncertain;
With fear she glows, and round her throws
Like folds the verdurous curtain.

"Halt! I'm Apollo," he cried, "that follow!
Dost fancy I should shame thee?
Gods laugh at rites, whom Love invites;
Popoi! that furze will lame thee!"

"The briar receive thee! I don't believe thee!
O Peneus! we'll away with
Feet sprouting wings, ere we'll be things
Which gods and heroes play with,

"Like thy Sibylla." "May Cerberus kill her!"
He bawled, and forwards tumbled.
"Stay, proud Peneïd! Zeus! where is she hid?'
His flesh for thorns he fumbled.

Then o'er the crags, and through the snags,
By fens and falls he chased her,
Like some outrageous, Anthropophageous
Moor hankering to taste her.

Lo! streaming hair, Love's ebon snare,
And heels tuckt white up under,
Neck radiant red, round arms be-bled—
Zirsk! went her zone in sunder!

Then adown a ravine, rough and narrow, between
Steep cliffs he compell'd her flight;
And the bramble, the bramble, seemed ever to scramble
For shreds of her garment white!

Lo! the deep wave in front of the hind, and the hunt
Gasping after, and fair fame to run for!
But she thought aloud, "O! if I double, I show—
If I stop or go forward, I'm done for!*

"O Peneus, my sire! thy strong help I require!"
On her fine polisht knee down she knelt;
But Apollo spread wide out his arms for a bride,
And a tall bush of Laurel he felt.

"Heavens! art thou fled, or barkt up dead
Behind the cold leaves' cluster?
Aï! daughter chaste and unembraced!
Thy locks are deathless lustre,
Whereof Renown shall twine a crown
For all her sons' brave muster!

* Ὀλωλα!

"O didst thou live, couldst thou forgive—
Thy shamefaced votary seeing?
For in mine heart sticks Honor's dart,
The Loves, the unlovely, fleeing."
Hist! through the boughs a soft air swoughs,
Their nodding shades agreeing!

SONNET I.

How fair is that which most is fair alone,
Though fairest of a crowd, like morning star!
When the scarce-azured heavens deserted are
By the bright bevies, over whom she shone,
Leading their dances, while the night came on;
The tremulous waves uplift her misty car;
She sits alone and goddess-like, and far
From foil and ineffectual paragon.
The eye, that wakens on that splendor sweet,
Should watch no farther for the anxious day;
The heart that, hopeful, Beauty's Might can greet,
Should Life's perfidious ends no more essay—
Happier, if Death in fullest life he meet
More quickly, than Her smile can pass away.

SONNET II.

Methought a thousand Pleasures at the door
Of Memory fluttered, but on fainting wings,
Their lips and goldhair blancht, and holding strings
Of bruised lyres, that shall give sound no more;
And overhead his torch wild Fancy bore,
Who Beauty's vesture to sick Sadness brings.
These met me all in their loud sorrowings,
And cried, "We sprang from Her thou shouldst deplore.
Death, when he lulled her, waked us from our sleep!
Death feeds him hourly on these colors rare;
We come to bid thee, while thou mayst, to weep;
Stay not, because our swarm looks yet so fair!
Nought, that us maketh lovely, dare we keep;
We fade, gray vapors, in the dusky air."

SONNET III.—JEU DE BOUTS-RIMÉS.

O! it was then I turned me to the wall;
'Twas then I turned unto the wall my face,
And thought that Heav'n for me had no more grace
In field or town,—no peace in bower or hall.
My Faith—with shame I own it—was so small,
My Hope so wearied out in Youth's fierce chase,
As if through Life I now must softly pace,
Through Life's dusk valley, shadowed by Her Pall.
Awake, O Music, thy exhortings fine!
Awake! but lull my frenzies all or some;
Wing the dead Moments with thy One, two, three!
And let me toward the eternal Moment come,
Where Love is throned as on Mount Palatine;
Where Love, not Hope, "Come, Brother," says to me.

THE PERSUASIONS OF ORPHEUS.

"Si potuit Manes arcessere Conjugis."—*Virgil.*

"Shall thy loving-kindness be showed in the Grave, or thy faithfulness in the Land where all things are forgotten?"—*Psalms.*

"And art thou lost, and at the coast
Whence none can e'er retrieve thee?
And was my bliss a moment's kiss?
And had I time to leave thee?

"In darksome wave yon bride they lave;
With Ethiop flint they wound her;
With balsams rare dusk wine they bear,
And myrrh with nitre round her.

"Round the wan Dead goes many a shred
Well-gummed, of Time defiant,
From brow to waist, with breath ungraced,
From feet to palms unpliant!

"In Tyrian vest her form they've drest;
Aï! form disformed and plundered!
With marble gates the last home waits
What from her Life is sundered.

"Turn dim, O Light, that hast no might
To cleave those glooms eternal!
O dells and caves, constrain your waves
To float forth signs infernal!

"O mountain's foot, that takest root
Below the brine's dark sources,
Tear up thy plains, crack all their chains,
Fling out their old-world corses!

"That realm unbar, where gleams no star,
Where flit the ghosts primeval;
Let Hades start, and hurl his dart,
Scared by the vast upheaval!

"O Titan, bound with shuddering Ground,
This seeming ground and basement
For all abodes of men and gods—
Break in earth's wall a casement!

"O fiery towers, with ash-gray showers
Blinding sea, field, and air!
O smouldering fountains, that bark the mountains,
Your lacklife ducts lay bare!

"Paths glowing white I crawl and smite;
Dim gaps my charm illumeth,
Death's greedy cells, Destruction's fells,
A Night that souls entombeth!

"Souls here would on their own Life live,
By Heaven's bland Love unstayed,
And of our World's, our Flesh's Warmth
For ever naked made!

"I at thy gate, O Hades, wait;
My charm could burst thy portal:
I seek the lost, I claim a ghost
To make those relics mortal.

"I pass—like whirring Wings unrolled—
The gates, the burial-lacking
Ghosts' rivage, and the dykes ninefold,
The rumor'd pains ne'er slacking!

"I pass the sprites in vain delights,
The asphodelian meadows,
Heroic forces, and shades that horses
Do groom, as if no shadows!

"I hail, O Dis, (for here I miss
No hues which life evince,)
I hail thy Queen—returned ('tis seen)
From Southward not long since!

"Hail, consort chaste! Hail! unembraced!
What dost thou teach yon daughters?
Their needls to ply, or flowers to tie
In garlands by still waters?

"I'd hear thee praise their 'works and days,'
Their village-blessing walk,
Their household care, their simple prayer,
Their sweet inspiring talk!

"What write your bards for their regards?
Upon what fields are worn
Their knots from drained bold arms well stained,
Their knots in victory borne?

"What toils and arts try manly parts,
Their well-trained Shoots to nourish,
Whence branching grand, till fails the land,
Life's goodly vine may flourish?

"Our Vine grows free by land, air, sea;
Her boughs are green by union:
Lo! Science lives, and Labor thrives
To help their high communion!

"O crescent world, bud half uncurled,
Where Death makes loathed incisions!
Thou masterpiece (tho' hissed by geese)
Of gods—no gods of visions!

"In thy great name Her Soul I claim,
Who'd yet this realm enlarge!
Might Enna's fair, just, wise Queen spare
Her plaything to my charge?"

THE LADS OF JOVE.

"Si Fratrem Pollux alternâ Morte."—*Virgil.*
"Fece Vendetta del superbo Strupo."—*Dante.*

When Leda's love the might of Jove
Had sipt beneath white pinions,
With dismal shame opprest she came
To ask a Seer's opinions.

"Fear not," he cried, "white-soulèd bride!
Fear not thy girdle tightening;
For Jove avows the field he ploughs,
And birdlike be thy lightening.

"In osiers placed, two eggs thou lay'st;
The life of Noon shall hatch them;
From each he'll pick out one male chick,
From fates terrene to snatch them.

"And eke therein are twin and twin,
Two mortal births of lasses,
Thy consort's pledges, whom Jove too fledges
In covering that surpasses,

"For white and pink, all men can think.
Ah beauty, perilous beauty,
Thy birthstar's pride burns far and wide
Like wisps regard, shame, duty!

"Thy striplings—heaven to both is given,
If both do well and truly;
The first, that dies, to Hades flies,
If both have been unruly."

"O father, father," cried the dame,
"Their portion's most unfair;
Let each preserve, if he deserve,
Or lose that birthright rare."

"Fear not thy sons, or fear but once,"
Said he, "thou Spartan mother;
They'll nobly share the birthright rare
Through brother's love to brother.

"Now see the event, and seeing consent,
And trust there are no shirkings;
For Fate and Will eterne fulfil
Themselves in mortal workings.

"Lo! where the dust-cloud might the tramps
Of Centaur-twins betoken,
Dost hear their thunders in the stamps
Of hooves by prancings broken?

"Their caps are white, the studs are bright,
Beneath them blows yon horsehair;
Thus over wool-white clouds two full
Stars rush to meet the Corsair.

"Behind and meeting them, youths are greeting—
Well-speared bold Bride-reavers;
'Now, egg-born pair, your cousins fair,'
Two cry, 'must balm our fevers.'

"From east, north, west, have bold blades prest,
The Virgins' bowers surrounding;
Their champions yield a bloodless field:
Up! bugle merrily sounding!

"The well-struck foot pursues the lute,
And glittering glide the torches;
Two cars the meek, white heifers sleek
Pull to those princely porches.

"Step from inside friend, groom, and bride;
The Veils have entered meetly;
Then swarms the hall, the bold fifes call—
'Let the dusk wine flow sweetly!

"'Down on the lion Hunger, down
Your pike-heads white and serried!
Let deep, O Bacchus, 'neath thy bolts
The wildcat Thirst lie buried!'

"Blood fills the veins, the temples strains,
Free song their marrows firing;
Wild spies pursue (avert thy view,
O Dame!) those Veils retiring.

"Ho! Lynceus, lynx-eyed! Idas proud!
Look where mad bridesmen clamber!
'Air swords! down ribalds!' Lynceus shouts
Before his sacred chamber.

"Storm, wild Pellmell! whizz, Shades, to hell,
Slashed with inglorious battle!
By Castor falling, hear Lynceus calling,
'Fell, youths, the adulterous cattle!'

"The swords have yielded, for Hymen wielded;
The field possess thy proud,
Thy swan-born Twain; old pacts are vain—
New nuptial fields are ploughed.

"To the rescue, Argos! Up, Revenge!
Up, Sisters viper-haired!
Up, Nemesis, Fate's lackblood maid,
With double scythe prepared.

"Leap, lion, from thy tasted prey,
Leap where the Avenger rages!
Castor's at Idas lunged his point,
Whose wound mail never suages!

"His flank it sips — thy son's foot slips!
Stride, might of Idas, o'er him!
And labor, labor, two-handed sabre,
And dash his brains before him!

"Up, sabre, hence! a finer fence
Remember, if possessing!
A steel-gloved Hand, as heavy as brand,
Comes through thy see-saw pressing.

"His wind it quashes, his feature smashes,
His knees the flung Leg staggers;
Down, monstrous form! sink, battle's storm —
Look if Jove's Pugilist swaggers!

"Hath all yon pride with Castor died?
Regards he henceforth no man?
No spirit dilates his nostrils' gates;
He spares the trampled foeman.

"Dumb, blind, he stands, nor feet nor hands
Moves from their rigid station;
To the rapid hour he prays for power
(You'd think) the fresh sensation
Of pain to blunt, before he front
The probe of meditation!

"To foul Death given—O heir of heaven—
Thy birthright yet unproved—
For toys of woman—the brawl inhuman
By might of Bacchus moved!

"Ah, bowl accurst, and thrice—thou thirst
Which we by youth inherit!
Storm not, young gods! I, too, the abodes
Ethereal mean to merit.

"Torn is my soul! Zeus make him whole,
And me nor god nor mortal!
Or may we learn to haunt in turn
The lacklife Stygian portal!

"I seek his place, I quit thy face,
I watch in heaven thy signs."
Lo! on his way the alternate ray
Of those their stars outshines.

PSYCHE LAMPLIT.

A LEGEND OF JEALOUSY.

"Spirit amenable, volatile,
Body's lodger and walkfellow,
Whither away have ye now to flit,
Pallidly, chillily, nakedly,
No more ready at bantering?"—*Antoninus.*

O SUNNY slopes where young I reigned!
O ever-talking streams!
O crowded woods, that scarce made room
For evening's pleasant gleams!

O flowery banks! O meadows pied!
  O shadows of the seas!
O lives unknown and many-named
  Of Nature's pageantries!

Hear ye—by sorrow tuned—a voice
  That oft ye knew full glad!
Friends of my youth, receive in ruth
  The exiled Oreäd!

Whim-footed I roved whilere,
  Like flies that sip the flowers
On gorgeous wings, whose wanderings
  No guesses match of ours.

I fed with delicate dreams my soul,
  My sister's tasks disdained;
Not oft my cares, at woodmen's prayers,
  The torrent's rush restrained.

To feasts and sports, where love resorts,
  To music's fine entreatings
I lent no leisure; I owed no pleasure
  To stolen quiet meetings.

"There's not on high a god," said I,
  "Nor youth in town or field,
Whose face I'll see, to think—To thee
  I cared my flower to yield.

"Gods smile, weep, swear, nor force they spare,
  Come fain, come feeble ladies;
New bowers they haunt, our shames they vaunt,
  They leave our births to Hades.

"Man's days are few, though some be true,
  But now so many claim
Descent from Jove, and must in love
  Play this ennobled game."

"O daughter, daughter!" cried the Seer,
"Thy flower—high Fate awards it
To whom 'tis meet; o'er thy discreet
Heart soon a stranger lords it."

"O sire, I claim the stranger's name;
Some word of power I doubt not,
In Orphic tune at full of moon
Pronounced, if me thou flout not."

"Truth speaks in glee, but not through me,"
The greybeard answered briefly;
"His name is noted, thou hast it quoted,
And in this moment chiefly.

"Is Love's disposer light of love?
If his gold shaft he tries
Once on himself, may that bold elf
Bear but such fire as dies?

"Fear not his faith—keep thine till death,
(If he'd to Hades yield thee;)
Thy word finds grace; let ne'er his face,
Who knows thee, be revealed thee.

"That conscience fine was his and thine;
This linketh you together;
Now, daughter, go, where signs will show;
Start lightly like a feather!

"Pause not; comply with Heaven's will high;
Go forth with buxom heart
To counsels kind and wise resigned."
I rose with stupid start.

My feet, turned west, the sea-beach prest;
Deep awe my soul gan learn
Of Love's great power, and of the dower
Held forth of life eterne.

"O bounty large, O wondrous charge!"
Lo! where a light boat gliding
Made without oar or sail the shore,
And seemed her guest abiding.

I stept in, drest in one light vest,
I brought no food nor wine;
Through evening, night and day with might
That keen keel ploughed the brine.

O evening, all aglow with Love!
O pomp eterne of night!
O desolate day! but when the quay
We'd toucht, I leapt out light.

In twilight marble terraces
Gleam,—flower, and bust, and vase;
In twilight white-robed songstresses
Yield the bold bride applause.

In darksome wave her form they lave,
  In Tyrian robe they've bound her;
With ointment rare dusk wine they bear,
  And glimmering plate around her.

They strewed her bed—for light now fled—
  In the deep bower's wall hollowed;
I couched mine head to hear their tread
  Recede, or lest His followed.

He's drawn me toward his breast—my form
  He lifts, he lays him by me;
My soul he sips between his lips—
  Ah! never more so nigh me.

Words, sweet as song, drew night along;
  Therein he filched my zone,
There sought he rude, and signed me nude,
  With seals of man, his own.

He murmured, "Hush, thou sultry blush,
That catchest from her cheek!
Peace, breast of swells! by holier spells
Let spirit spirit seek.

"Hark! maiden-eyed, white-soulèd bride,
Didst know those gifts of mine?
That oil in truth was lasting youth,
And lasting life that wine.

"The queendom, priesthood, and the bliss,
That with thy state comport,
Through time and pains will be thy gains—
And taught thee in my court,

"Through solemn songs, by virgin throngs"—
Now powerful sleep came o'er me,
(Thus work those charms.) In Love's true arms
The false Dream stood before me.

I rose, methought, at dawn, and sought
  For Love, and found no traces;
I wandered lonely; I trembled, only
  Remembering his embraces.

I past where marble terraces
  Gleamed,—flower, and bust, and vase;
I shunned where white-robed songstresses
  Gave the bold bride applause.

I roamed along, I sipt their song,
  Methought, grown rash and hollow,
Too wildly versed, and interspersed
  With pied tropes hard to follow.

My feet, turned west, a new beach prest;
  Lo! where a light boat gliding
Made without oar or sail the shore;
  Whereon stood one deriding,

(Was't me unwise?) with thumbs and eyes.
Soon softening, he began
To smile and speak in artful Greek,
A weather-beat gray man.

"Heh! bring my snares of Syrens' hairs
For fish or birds to angle;
Ho! maiden fair as debonnaire!
I've charms can hearts entangle."

"Not Maid," I cried; "white-soulèd Bride,—
But hast thou chains in caskets—
Zones on wrist, waist, or ankle placed,
Perfumes in opal flaskets?"

Now grinned and whewed the graybeard lewd,
"O Bride, our gauds are fine;
But, in the dark, an oil-fed spark
They'd lack to make them shine.

"They don't here play with brides by day—
The sorcerers, who come hither
In turn each night; to make a light
Best buy this gear together!"

"They?" scared, I cried; mine eyes oped wide,
Unravelling night's dun braid;
Love's temples prest my throbbing breast,
His the deep-drawn breath swayed.

O Doubt, of Tartarus born, and Night!
Surmise, by Furies bred!
The loophole gleamed—my body seemed
A javelin toward it sped.

Accursèd hint! lo! steel and flint,
Lamp, touchwood, linen charred!
Whence I (O spite of Hell!) got light,
Which oft men's peace hath marred.

I saw — but how impart the sight?
  Not Phœbus nor the Nine
Could (Love not aiding) prompt us right,
  Nor could the Power of Wine.

Appear, O Bridler of the Proud,
  And Prover of the Brave:
Appear — where thou art strong as Death,
  And cruel as the Grave!

His head was prone, his gold hair strown,
  His neck with sweet flush glowing;
His body spare — on food like air
  That he existed, showing.

His half-spread wings were powerful things,
  With groups of dreams depainted;
His arms were long, and supple, and strong,
  With divers shifts acquainted.

Around his waist a Snake is braced,
  Whose poison thence is borne
To gall the darts of Change, of Death,
  Of Memory and of Scorn.

I shrieked—I turned the lamp—and burned
  Love where a drop descended.
He raised his head, face hid, and said,
  "No faith! and all is ended!"

The light I quelled; my chin Love held.
"Wilt grow," said he, "less weak?
Seek, O beguiled, half-worthy child,
  My face, face ever seek!

"By land, air, sea, thy path be free,
  The might of fire obey thee;
Send out thy spies to range the skies!
  Yet must I long delay thee."

SYRENS REHEARSING.

"Hear the Seamaids' music."—*Shakespeare.*

When our first touches shall have charmed the air
To cease from flattering yonder blood-red flag,
And make his breasted canvass flap and fall,
And firm shall fix that pyre of burning cloud,
Which wastes the glory of the August sun—
When every delicate rose-plume overhead
Shall stain the silver of the stirless brine;
His eye shall watch no more for rocking waves,
His heart shall faint for love of sights removed
In hours not stained with revel or with blood;
And sighing shall he wish his life a dream!

When next our cadences beneath his heart
Shall penetrate, with yon far-wandered wind
Whose ebbs and swells the lone night measure out,
And like a wind that from his birthday up
Hath timed his evil hours in years forgotten;
Yea! like a wind from Being's eldest womb,
Which through the night of unremembering Age
Has moaned the cycles of the sumless hours—
Which from the night of inconceivable Age
Dread phantoms wafts—blind Chance or sleepless Fate,
With lackblood Vengeance, Fate's executrix,
Whose instruments (her victims in due course),
The Furies and the Frenzies train perforce—
When he'll forget the gods and all their care—
Come with your crownèd skeleton Despair,
Ye reinless hunters of the last-left game,
Come passions, swart or red, your bondsman claim,
Come Lust, Revenge, or Power, or blood-gilt Fame.

Mature high Judgments for the plundered city,
For multitudes of woes that mocked all pity!

When thrice our harps have shook their lips of gold,
When all the maddening joys his heart enfold,
When earth's joys he 'll forget from wine to balm,
Awake, Delusion! On the sea-plain calm
Paint Aphrodita, with the star-brow beaming,
Veiled in the soft haze, rosy-flesht, and seeming
To court the accosting of proud mortal arms.
"O bliss! nor life nor death shall us divide,"
He shouts, and clasps that mirror for a bride.

SONNET IV.

Methought I left her at the break of day,
  And promised love to keep, and conquer fate,
  And build a rose-bower and a jealous gate,
Where she at evening should return and stay.
I went, and wandered all the sultry day,
  And mingled in vain stirs and rash debate;
  And seared my lips with scoffs, my heart with hate,
Till all the precious hours had slipt away;
And with the star of evening she returned,
  More lovely in the sight of gods and men;
And much with love, and more with shame, I burned
  To meet her in the wild unsheltered glen.
"Abide," she said, "till rounds yon moon;" and turned;
  I tarried, but Death wooed, and won her then.

THE REMORSE OF DON RODRIGO.

"Muy gran batalla se trava." — *Rio Verde.*

Had they but, by a just king led,
Sunk upon Slaughter's crimson bed,
So knightly zeal and Christian faith
Should pledge thee in the gasps of death
Immortal, and God's arm would heal
The poisoned fountains of thy Weal;
But now — thy arm is cleft in twain!
And what if I repent, O Spain?

A monarch's tears for thee should rain,
But whose the tears thou wouldest gain?
Thou should'st not call thy monarch, nor
Thy mourner, bloodstained ravisher.

Let hearts more noble thaw for thee,
Land of prowesse and courtesie!
But what were I for thee to weep?
God for the shepherd smote the sheep—
I wash mine own soul's wounds, hell-deep.

Summæ Deus Clementiæ! veil
Thine ear from that pernicious tale
That sells my thoughts to woe's control,
To shame my brow, despair my soul,
My steps to walk in futile ways,
My sight to glooms of cheerless days.
The stirs of life are round me husht,
All in itself my heart is crusht.
Poor outwardly, within dismayed,
My life is idler than the shade
Which o'er a sleeping child has played,
And from the hot sun his fence has made.
Across my golden memories
Oblivion steals with apathies!

Spain, gather toward a mountain-home
Thy bold brood; wait the days to come.
Those plantless moors have lonelier spaces
Where prouder freedom Man embraces;
From crags to lazy hollows erring
Their winds learn voices more heart-stirring;
Their tow'ring peaks, when clouds unroll,
Which round them jealously patrol,
Shall carry far the patriot's glance
Athwart his lost inheritance.
Loved rivers, glittering chesnut-trees,
Bright citron gardens, villages,
Where faithless Moorish men have homes,
His eye shall covet while it roams.
In narrowed limits though he fret,
In fiercer flood he'll break down yet,
And roar for lands he loved so well
Through all thy ramparts, Ishmael!
Thy stately roofs his heart shall whet

For strife, and mosque and minaret
Cry to him to wipe out the stain
Of that false worship in the plain,
And bring the cross of Christ again!
Wild-singing Hope, charm not in vain!
Our hearts, unworthy thy dear might,
Put thee to shame in our despite!
Our madness tramples thee as grass,
But up thou springest ere it pass.
Hear, God of Battles, and amass
On green marge of blood-mottled wave,
The squandered corpses of our brave,
Till home we hunt those Libyan hordes—
Beset them with Thy fiery swords!

THE VIRGIN MARTYR.

" Raise thy footstep on Mount Latmos,
Shed thy glories, Huntress-Queen ;
Show thy silver brows just yellowed,
Chastely clouded, tho' serene."

" WHENCE Mark ?" "I greet the knight of Crete ;
I bore her pardon hurrying,
Killed on the way thy favourite gray,
And more, with fiend's hoof scurrying.

" I reached His court ; 'twas there no sport
Through all the suppliants driving
My flank and head ; perchance I sped
The worse for half my striving.

"The third row gained, my arm I strained
To forward push thy letters
Mid finger tips between their hips;
They stormed, 'Behind thy betters!'

"The roll had dropt; my hands I flopt
Pell-mell among their tramplers,
And seized it; first they shoved, then curst
My zeal's uncourtly samplers.

"Nay, I'll be brief, if that's relief;
But I was sore entangled;
He caught my face, while making space
His lictors with us wrangled.

"'From Xanthus?' 'Ay, O Judge,' I cry,
'To bear that high commission
Which he foretold (the note's not old);
I'll hand this with permission.'

"He waved his head. 'Twas late,' he said,
With a cold smile perfidious;
'Prompt work we make when faith 's at stake,—
And favor looks invidious—

"'That most which savours of damsels' favours
In vulgar ruminations;
Besides a post or two he lost;
Some one's negotiations

"'With her employed, they'd said, the void.'"
"Speak, Marcus, how it's ended."
"'I'd sent before her course was o'er
To have it,' he said, 'suspended.

'You'll in the gate the news await,
And these will claim attention.'"
"Well! what remains in all her veins
Of soul from that suspension?"

"She bore great chains and hunger's pains,
Hair-haled she felt gross lipping;
Through fire she trod, and bore the rod
Bone after sinew stripping.

"Earth sucked her fresh and morselled flesh,
Whose altar-covered soul is
Where martyrs white cry day and night
Their holy-holy-holies,

"Joined with, How long, just Lord and strong,
Wilt unavenging" — "Stop,
Thou owl of Hell's, those rack-soul yells,
Lest with thy teeth they drop."

HYPATIA VERSUS K—

" Stet magni nominis umbra ! "

THEY pounded me with fists and stones,
The murderous monks of old ;
They scraped with oyster-shells my bones,
They'd rent my inmost fold !

That face of which in lecture-hall
I veiled the maddening light—
To blue and black they mashed it all !
They made it such a fright !

" How long, O Death ? " my gasping breath
Invoked the friend of pain ;
Whose hand of power, in that grim hour,
Shut soft upon my brain !

Earth drinks my blood; by wind and flood
  My flesh is borne in flakes!
Which town-dog snaps, and friar, perhaps —
  And bald-neckt bird partakes.

My fame shone fair—through steamless air,
  As old-world stars are clear,
Despite those beasts—but now a priest's
  Polemics cloud me here!

He's made me traffic in the pangs
  Of Rome's infernal sports!
Whew, whew! to be a prefect's wife,
  And quit high Wisdom's courts.

I lost, he's said, poor Reason's thread,
  And Nature's heat pursued—
He's watched my face in my boudoir,
  For dreams and frenzies lewd.

Is that the warfare of thy faith,
  O worse than Coptic monk?
Did I as toward young Phœbus kneel,
  And court a friar that * *?

Pass in thy shame, Chaldee-like dame,
  Will-worshipper, quoth he!
No throne! for delicate nor sage
  Reputed shalt thou be!

Thy logic's mean, Thou Nazarene,
  That Virgin-honour smites!
O Mother mild, and undefiled,
  Befit such arms thy knights?

All shame, all conscience, is denied
  The misbelieving maid,
Who never spells, in Canticles,
  The tie for which she's made.

SONNET V.

The glow-worm lit his bower in dewy blades,
  Askance the gleaming moth bewildered flew,
  The night her rapid fires, like jewels, threw
From her pale fillet wrought with dedale braids.
Heaven's host was brightening, earth's hue lost in shades;
  Thy lone regard the World's dread beauty drew.
  So stood august before the Immortals' view
Thy soul ingenuous, noblest maid of maids.
The Power, who sowed with powers yon starry wild,
  Set in thee freedom, which thou keepest whole,
To overcome the world, being his child;
  Within the temple of his works thy soul
Steps without pausing, for 'tis undefiled,
  And to thy hope star-periods give no goal.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN IRISH WAKE.

" Wir lassen das Grämen, wir lassen das Schämen,
Wir werben so keck, und wir fodern so laut! —
Und man will sich euch bequemen,
Und ihr führt die Braut!" — *Ad Plures.*

Heine — accommodated.

So long had we stayed in the shadow of death,
That it darkened our eyes, and it sickened our breath;
Outwatchèd was Nature with wearisome pain,
And laughter hysteric was wrung from the brain.

" The wind it is warblin', and moanin', and cooin'!
The Divel he knows what the wind would be doin'!
If the ghost from her coffin came out in the room,
We'd grow stony and pale as the great day of doom.

"There is lights by the coffin in lovely array,
And surely now, darlin', ye can't miss your way!
Pass the pipe, Donoghue, man, and shove round the whiskey,
And we'll talk of ould times, and we'll wake her up frisky.

"Augh, when ye war younger, mavourneen asthore!
Ye'd have set all the boys o' the town in a roar;
For so comely ye war, and so quiet and sly,
That the staling of hearts was the blink of your eye.

"Lave blarneyin', Shaughnessy, now of repale,
Or ye'll wake some shillelagh to finish your tale!
Whether mendin', or hoein', or milkin' the kye,
Like a witch was my cousin to every lad nigh.

"Bill Jackson, ye Saxon, draw closer the fire,
For the sleet's fallin' thick, and the gust risin' higher;
Say, 'By fire and by sleet, and may Christ her meet!'
Now it's out o' my head what I mane to complete.

"Now whisht, and ye'll hear. It was one Halloween
Playin' forfeits. The divel inflame the potheen!
And he axed, 'Will ye have me?' and 'Sorrow to
ye, no!'
Was her answer. The word with the forfeit
came so.

"Ay, Saxon, ye laugh! Then they placed her up-
right,
With a sheet on her stature, in each hand a light;
And she looks so severe, and so lovely, and grand,
That a Saxon would kiss her foot sooner than hand.

"Then he put her a thread in the lips of carmine,
And the cherry in his, did young Misther Mac-
fyne,
And she pulled up the cherry by mouthin' the thread,
But the fire on her cheek would have quicken'd the
dead.

"And his kiss would have scarce took the bloom
from a peach;
But she thought him a bold man just so far to reach!
Hould your singin' there, Geogh'gan, one quarter of
an hour—
And he shared in a fortnight her board and her
bower!

"And we saw then the weddin', we saw then the
beddin',
And our fancies on fire of Vayzoovius war treadin';
Then he ruin'd her out o' both table and bed,
And the fool at a matin' got knockt on the head.

"Then I call'd in her cabin as March winds war
howlin',
And she sat in her cloak with a brow bent and
scowlin';
I invited her home for our grandmother's sake;
'Arrah, cousin,' she said, 'ye'll have two then to
take.'

"Then I axed, 'Where's the other?' and she looked so quare!
And I cried, 'Arrah then, dear, by Patrick I swear,
It's my own wife and child that I'll be takin' home—
Else the Divel may guide you as farr as ye roam.'

"Pour logs in the fire, and set punch on the bowl,
And we'll drink a long draught to the health of her sowle!
Though the outlet of Purgathry long it may miss
'Twill sure in the end be receaved into bliss!

"Then she laughed out, and took me so kind by the hand!
And we waited — Down, Shaughnessy, sure ye can't stand!
What glasses are flyin'! What! none of you able
To behave, and Bill Jackson is under the table!
By oblivion and whiskey then wo be beguiled,
For I never had aither my wife or my child."

SONNET VI. — TEMA ITALIANO.

S' io la rincontro nell' eterna pace,
Ira ed Amor mi turberanno il petto;
S' io la rincontro in cerchio maledetto,
Per Lei sarammi fredda ogni altra face.
Per Lei sepolta mia Speranza giace;
L' avello è di furore albergo e letto;
Però di rivederla non m' aspetto,
Nè per eterno secol nè fugace.
Onde Pietà mi vince il fiero ingegno,
Anzi Fierezza nel mio cuor ragiona
Contro al Niente qual rinnovi sdegno?
L' altrui sacrata fu mortal persona!
Ben vuol, ch' a Gelosia pognam ritegno,
L'Amor, ch' a nostra Vanità perdona.

PRELUDE TO "A SHORT TIME AGO;"

BY THE REV. C. KING SLY.

GIVE ear, ye bold West-country Squires,
  And modest girls of Devon;
My theologic muse inspires
  A novel guide to Heaven.

Love brings redemption, who can teach
  The Sceptic, tumbling slap
A moral somersault, to reach
  The fair Saint's Broad-Church lap?

The frowning clouds break overhead,
  The bonds are loosed of Doubt;
A child of Wrath goes in to wed,
  An heir of Grace comes out.

So bright Undine might rise, I ween,
  From Red-Cross Knight's embrace—
How many a soul would plant itself
  In such a favoured place!

There's no perdition but for souls
  Of moping men of rhyme,
Who leave their gallipots and bowls,
  To fret for fame sublime;

Who ne'er with bridle, bat, nor oar,
  Nor gloves, improved their forces;
Who honest beer and smoke forswore
  For laudanum and loose courses;

Who settled washing bills unread,
  Whose hours obeyed no rules,
Who married noble daughters made
  To teach my Sunday schools;

Who leave, in jealous wrath, picnics,
  Where old gallants read homilies,
And bolt from Snowdon down to Styx—
  Who love not Sea-Anomalies!

Thus much I mean; God save our Queen,
  And all brave guards that foller her,
And teach us our back-slums to clean
  Before we hear of Cholerer!

TEMPORARY INSANITY.

BY J. B., AUTHOR OF A "SOUL'S AGONIES."

As when the deadly Snake by Fear secures
His Victims, and to what they loathe allures,
Thus, where mine Eyes have fed on Beauty's flowers,
Grim Death with fascinating Terror lowers.
For Death I loathe; yet Souls have Death in Life;
With Death we'd better rest than live at strife.
My Life's young Fire was burnt and spent in vain;
"L. S." thou couldst have made it beam again.
Shapes of bright Honor, Friendship, Freedom fair!
Mine were ye, melted now "into thin Air!"
Love gave me second Life, and Love, repaid
With Scorn, his gift to second Death betrayed.

Now, tyrant Death, thou tramplest on my Soul;
My Pride, my Judgment feel thy numb Control;
Poor Conscience pines; light-loving Phantasy
Makes haste, like a pluckt Rose, to droop and die;
Free Choice, with which the Eternal's Breath imbued
The delicate Soul, in contest foul subdued,
Succumbs to Wish! Take, Death, my Body then!
Have all, if Thou canst break the *Nerve* of Men.
Take Life, thy Promise and Reproach away!
Our Nerve is tried, and shattered in the Essay —
Through Beauty's loss? Ah! Nought could make us rue,
Had only Soul unto Herself been true.
Ay! once through Woman we could bear to smart,
When this, which loved Her, was a guileless Heart.

THE QUINTESSENCE OF AURORA.

BY E. B. B.

" Put on a swashing and a mannish outside.—*Cymbeline.*

Of writing one may see no end,
Our postscripts few men reach;
But all my heart I'll now impart
In plain, curt Saxon speech.

My father loved a girl in Rome;
Their flame was hallowed Wine;
Though I, poor Copy, barely saw
That beauteous Mould of mine.

My father had estates in tail,
  Denied the Alien's Heir.
For Love's dear gifts — to live by shifts
  One leaves such Offsprings rare!

So Albion's mist my forehead kist,
  I learnt her vales to love;
My martinet aunt preserved from want,
  And tamed the reluctant dove.

And Phœbus smiled on that close child,
  Who conned his lore by stealth;
She missed the plot of a marriage-knot,
  Which should have brought her wealth.

O Romney Leigh, fair cousin and free!
  I did reject your hand,
A prize most real; but my ideal
  You would not understand!

You thought my laurel a baby's coral;
  My heart and genius feminine
You would have had stoop to coals and soup!
  Such male conceits contemn, ye Nine!

Didn't I pursue, as well as you,
  The welfare of the masses?
Obscene-phizzed swarm! but song might charm
  Their minds to Christian graces.

You'd means material, and I'd ethereal!
  Your flock you had bootless bother
To fold and feed; but in harder need
  I served yon maidlike mother.

Now bid us bear the paltry share
  Assigned by Education
To female parts—in half your Arts
  The left Hands of Creation.

Yet my best lore she had known before;
And you? the tusks you pampered
Ran back to rend you—and Heaven defend you!
They burned your school, and scampered.

Hot splints down poured, and you were floored,
And lost your sight thereunder.
'Οτοτοῖ! what remote, Brontëan breeze-note
Came "whuddering," "That's my thunder?"

We both were human! we erred in common!
Our crotchets we've been rueing,
I in mine attic, you in erratic
Utilitarian wooing!

A naïve pure mind your vows declined!
More dangerous feelings far
(Indecent warm) throb in the form
Of Lady Waldemar!

Ah, shun that serpent; for there's in her pent
  More vice than smirks by lamplight!
Keep cool thy head; for she's not dead,
  But *only* in such a d——d plight.

Turn, trouble-laden! seek thy true maiden!
  And after explanations
Of a dozen sheets, while starlight meets
  Morn's opal radiations,
You'll give me a name like her's that came
  From heaven in the Revelations.

PSYCHE LOVELIT.

"My dust would hear thee and beat,
Had I lain for a century dead,
Would start and tremble under thy feet,
And blossom in purple and red."—*Tennyson's Maud.*

She strewed her bed, where flowers are shed
From thicket softly sounding;
She bound with rare fine spells the air,
With charms the moon surrounding.

She rested on the ivied shaft
Her tresses pearl-beladen;
She lulled beneath white folds her feet,
Couched like a stately maiden.

O wearied feet, with ceaseless beat
  Your quest eterne pursuing!
O maiden weed, that darest not bleed,
  The tints of love enduing,

Till Love descend, the long-lost friend!
  O pearls, that spend your lustre
On spots as lonesome as the grots
  Where first your shells did cluster!

O flowers of May! O spells that play
  With all the Welkin's daughters,
With clouds and light, and lightning's might —
  And sound ethereal waters.

O ivied shaft, that light hast quaft
  From many an out-worn moon,
Whose stalks decay nor night nor day,
  Nor bud from Fall to June.

What more of rest desires that guest,
  Or what dream unreturning?
From whose dim trace perchance her face
  In the cool twilight's burning.

What dream to chase contracts her face,
  What phantoms aye returning?
Around her waist what snake is braced,
  Cold on that midriff burning?

What spell's control hath bound her soul
  In the long-past day's power?
O Love supreme, who seest, I deem,
  The eternal like an hour,

Dissolve in light the bands of night,
  In memory's vault outblaze
The ghosts of earth, and with new birth
  Life-wearied Life upraise!

Beneath cold Jove the gray Night drove
(Soft-hooved) her team declining;
The Hours and Stars loosed Daydawn's bars;
She from her bath rose shining.

Now Procne twitters, Arachne litters
With pearls her thought-thin tissues;
No blade or flower in Psyche's bower
May stir, before she issues.

"Out bold new Dream! nay, Fold of steam,
Yellowish, the Fen's soft daughter!
Clipt and comprest on a Hill-wind's breast,
If that might make thee tauter;

"Seek elsewhere, lass, thy mate, but pass!
Pull-to and gird thy raiment:
Ah! thou delayest, O thing dog-faced.
Like some importunate claimant!

"Whew! bloodless ghost, from sapless coast!
Darest thou approach th' immortal?
Beware our belt! his fang is felt
Beyond the soul-king's portal!

"What! pale intruder! thou waxest ruder,
Whom waking I'll—but cease now
(Or else retreat) before my feet;
And speak there, with my peace now.

"What! o'er my waist thy hand is placed!
No thunder-bolt subsoils thee!
Or doth Love's might o'erlook thee quite,
Whose heart no blood parboils thee?

"Snake! on thy crown his hand comes down!
Thy rubies are not sparkling,
Thy barbs not leaping; O tame guard—sleeping
Where sacrilege comes darkling!

"Relax thy fold, thou craven cold!
Speak, elder; whose commission
Bearest thou me, sad, poor Oreäd,
In friendless, frail condition?

"Ha! mild bough vernal! Ah! smile paternal!
O scarce-remembered feature!
The seer who blest me before Love prest me,
Me, light caprice-winged creature!

"Hark! dost thou dwell in lacklife hell,
And has Love in thee spoken?
Methought he'd save from yon Souls'-grave
Him whom he'd lent that token."

"For these words, daughter, time will serve,"
Says the pink Halo, glowing;
"Now tell me where thou'st laid thine hair,
On leaves not dead, not growing?"

"O seer of Love, behold the grove
Where first, lovelorn, I rested!
Come thou delayed face! here I prayed;
Here first his charms I tested.

"To shape that column, I breathed his solemn
Words o'er the might of Fire,
While softly heated, this plant completed
Her growth from gyre to gyre.

"Toucht with our belt Death's kiss they felt!
Thy hand! but no—that's shade!
What more, O seer? 'twere long to hear
How long, how far I strayed!

"I passed the den of rude fierce men;
'Hath Love,' said I, 'been here?'
'O mate illwed!' they cried, 'he's dead
For us this many a year.

"'Our arms wage strife with love and life;
With curbs of fire and slaughters
We turn and check the world's proud neck,
We humble stateliest daughters.'

"My heart 'gan bleed, I blanched my weed;
I stood one moment rooted;
Then 'gan I hear threat, whip and jeer;
I passed the lake dry-footed.

"Deep in thought's maze my soul's foot strays;
The ruffian hordes surround me;
They tied my bare arms with my hair;
To hawthorn boughs they bound me.

"'Sing now (and smile) how Love's pink isle
With scarfs of heather blooms!'
'What daughter chaunts in strangers' haunts,
Lost isle, thy purple glooms?

"'If I forget thee in my wo,
If I forget in laughter,
Dead Hades warp my ghost-voice sharp,
Devour Night my Hereafter!

"'O sons of Mars, who cities' bars
And fanes profanèd shatter,
Who nail on roods the love-bird's broods—
Your might shall a northwind scatter.'

"'Peace, owl of hell's!' the roused rout yells;
They rush'd on me to fyle me;
Death's sting he felt, who touched our belt;
O Love, didst thou besmile me?

"They piled on high green boughs and dry;
The might of fire embraced me!
Unscorcht when nude, an ivory rood,
The crimson flames enchased me!

"Them, blood-embathed, grim discord scathed;
Their tower of brass is shattered,
Those win that look toward whom they strook;
Their might the north-wind scattered.

"From frost-numbed lands came flax-haired bands;
They hailed me Love's anointed!
Rebuilt the tower, and deckt my bower,
With purple pomp appointed.

"To the gates of Morn my flag was borne;
Where sinketh eve serene,
Where thawless frosts gem polar coasts,
The round earth hailed me Queen.

"If, soothed in rest, I left my quest,
The belting viper galled me!
Yet my worn sight have masks of night
Betrayed, while seer they called me!

"Through earth's dark cells and spectral hells,
Where augurs' ghosts flit peeping,
Where the witch waits on fiend-bedmates,
Lies in their right hands keeping;

"Where echoes fly, where Manès cry,
Those barks from souls divided,
Through old Night's maze, by oilfed rays,
My steps austere I guided.

"I spared not toil, I spared men oil
To give me more priest-chrisms,
Lest all respect they mig ht neglect;
I feared my people's schisms!

"Now heaven's blank bounds my starplumb sounds;
The bournes of space and time
I overpeer, with logic's gear,
Or conscience-lore sublime!"

"For these things, daughter, time will serve,"
Says the pink Halo, darkening;
"But say, meanwhile, how thrives the Isle
Where thou to Love wast harkening?

"Hast strayed to gather his scarf-bank heather,
Or smoothed his verdurous ledges?
Hast by the waters led forth those daughters
To teach them 'neath green hedges?

"Soft-footed hours tread busy bowers,
Where Love controls the changes
Of tasks and thought, and mirth well-bought,
And Hope, that wild bee, ranges.

"There could'st thou rest, the absent's guest;
In well-known walks there only
Might the chill snake thy waist forsake,
Less jealous of thee lonely.

"In sudden sleeps the lifewine steeps
The brain, where stirs regret;
The youth-oil clears from languid fears
The reins, which thence are wet.

"Ha! thy mind stirs; its messengers
My promised land surveying!
Wide spreads thy blush, thy garments flush,
Pink gleams across them playing."

"That pink's thy own," her prest lips moan,
"O what rich voice o'ersteals me,
Balmed with all tones that Phœbus owns,
And life and youth reveals me?

"O what delight makes red of white,
Through all my hawthorn's clusters —
Completes my shaft, whose leaves have quaft
Hope's vernalest of lustres

"Gyre after gyre? while opal fire
  Is flushing all my pearls,
And rubies sparkling, and jasper darkling,
  O belt, shade all thy curls!

"Ah dream!" "Ope wide thine eyes," Love cried,
  "Confront my purplest light.
Kiss me, O sister, with the kiss
  Perpetual of thy sight!"

THE COOL OF THE MORNING.

Low, as I loved in childhood well,
  The lips of waves, that fling
On tawny sand the pearly shell,
                Are murmuring

From bay so marbled, that one light
  Curl on it hardly shows ;
Its boundaries with the sphere unite
                In mist that glows.

The gathering ardors of the Noon,
  The storms that Eve may scare,
The solemn pageant of the Moon,
                Are folded there.

Here children play, and counterfeit
  The golden shows of life,—
Nor guess how parching 's Passion's heat,
    How wild is strife!

How long and weariful their Day
  To mortals may be given!
How sweet and grand, and far away,
    Are the eyes of Heaven!

A REQUIEM

SHROUD thy pale charms!
Rest thy worn brain on Heaven's unfaltering arms.
Seek thou no fabled coasts —
The realms of wandering, bloodless, lack-life ghosts.
Keep, calmly keep,
Soul of our loved One, thy millennial sleep;
Repose, like thralls redeemed,
Till the great Dayspring through thy clods have beamed.
When Michael's wake-death blares must every tomb divide,
Rise hallowed, glorified!

THOUGHTS BORN FROM A WELLINGTON MEMORIAL,

DESIGNED BY H. LEIFCHILD, ESQ.

ENSHROUD in bronze the scattered cones
From Glory's stalwart pine;
In breasts of zeal, with wills of steel,
The mighty Memories shrine.

Renew their tears from Daydawn's biers,
Their chaunts from groves perennial;
Let their regret, their pride, not set
Through Albion's Eve millennial.

With tear-clad smiles, O Realm of Isles,
  Attend thy champion's dirges!
Erect his mound, where orchards sound,
  Fast by thy guardian surges!

    Guard the wan breast, the martial vest,
      The pall's unwrinkled fold,
      The arm alert, the features girt
        With meek composure cold!

Rest on that shore thy stride once more
  Thou Roman chief most royal;
Plant, Empire's Heir, thy standard there;
  Thence make proud Freedom loyal.

Plant on that shore thy Cross once more,
  Thou solemn, chaunting reader
Of words that burn, of words that turn
  Souls to the immortal Leader!

Rear on our shore thy brow once more,
  Hope's daring, pensive child!
Then Concord's Winner, then sage Beginner
  Of English utterance mild.

    Guard the wan breast, the martial vest,
      The pall's unwrinkled fold,
    The arm alert, the features girt
      With meek composure cold!

Stand, O stern Claimant, in mailed raiment,
  Thou Norman Duke, beneath him!
Thy sword with Might carved selfish Right,
  Thy sword's wreath may not wreath him.

Stand, O foam-ranger, and swift avenger,
  And winding Navy-breaker!
Who strew'st the main with prows of Spain,
  Of jealous Zeal's awaker.

Glance, King of Scenes, where *Soul* convenes
Her daughters heavenly dower'd,
So blithely prest on *Form's* male breast,
They seem therein devoured.

Guard the wan breast, the martial vest,
The pall's unwrinkled fold,
The arm alert, the features girt
With meek composure cold!

Stand, thou that wakest, yet promptly breakest
Rebellion's prancings rude!
Of works dictator, but liberator
Of Faith's discordant brood.

Executive steel of the common weal,
Gravely new senates charging;
Engird with chains the surgeful plains,
Our trade and arts enlarging.

Bring that foam-ranger and swift avenger,
Who storms Herculean portals ;
And bring the seer, who strives to clear
Heaven's ways with froward mortals.

Guard the wan breast, the martial vest,
The pall's unwrinkled fold,
The arm alert, the features girt
With meek composure cold !

Stand close, and cold, and self-controlled,
Thou that the isle-crowns earnest
With wedlock's bands, with foreign brands,
And by the hearts thou turnest !

Thou faction-breaker, and tame truce-maker,
Broad Europe's balance holding,
Who dar'st reject the pride of Sect,
Her hates with peace enfolding !

Stand with the seer, who maketh clear
The laws of light and weight,
The patriot, nerving the wings unswerving
Of commerce through debate.

Guard the wan breast, the martial vest,
The pall's unwrinkled fold,
The arm alert, the features girt
With meek composure cold!

[THE ANTHEM.]

SERVATE Ducis tumulum!

Tumulum, O Milites, Caius Julius Princeps, cum beato Augustino, benedicto cum Alfredo, — servat.

Tumulum Conquestor Gulielmus, cum Drakei robore, cum poetâ vestro Gulielmo, — servat.

Tumulum Oliverus Cromwellius, cum vî Blakei, cum Miltono vate, — protegit.

Tumulum Gulielmus Deo datus, cum Newtoni albâ
animâ, cum dilecto Peelio, — servat.
Servate, O milites, cives, sacerdotes, reges, tumulum.

Pia soboles Virginis!
" Spem tuentur resurrectionis mortuorum!"

Pia soboles Virginis!
Præbe vultum illis;
" Rursus et incipiant in corpora velle reverti."

Exorabunt comites concordes —
Britanni, "natione, moribus,"

" Vitis surculi, quam plantâsti,
Vir-Ramus, quem corrobores Tibi."

Implorabant filioli Britanniarum.

Psyche stetit.

ABOUT KING'S CHAPEL, CAMBRIDGE.

"Vivat Rex Henricus in Æternum Noster, Ecclesiæ Domitor, Fundator."—Fr——dii *Anekdota.*

Like spirits in thy stony bowers enthralled,
The wailings of imprisoned harmonies
Clomb up thine airy pinnacles, and shook
The bases of thy cliff-like buttresses;
Amidst thy parapets and loop-holed towers
They joined the dying warblings of the gale,
And floated 'twixt the linden lines afar,
Breathing of passion mortal powers transcending.
This lures us inward unawares. We catch
Only the last droppings of honeyed sounds
From all parts of the roof, crowded and warm,

Showered from the knots of leafery, and the forms
Of fleur-de-lis and rose. O'er shaft and mullion
A tingèd woof of sunlight falls —
For vacancy and silence folding it.
Now toward the chancel let us make—toward niches
And censers, that once lived and glowed. Thy fancy
Let many forms and meanings feed at leisure.
  Lo shafts aye soaring, as they soar embraced!
Since ever, as their rays shoot forth like sheaves,
Arching the bowery roof, the nest of pleasure,
Thin convex fillets cross or limit them;
But sidelong rays from parted clusters merge
In one broad fillet, girding rays betwixt,
Gathering by threes the shafts in bonds of love,
Transmitting fellowship continuous!
The midmost rays, vaulting the roof, are curved
Like parted hair upon a meek fair brow —
Like seraph brows in veneration bent
Before the Virgin. In the midst are held

Crowns, Roses, Tudor emblems. Look, high spirits
Reach thus, through bonds of law, their home in love;
Thus climb and bend, repose and cling together.
High spirits here have worshipt
Through Beauty, charming all desire, all pride—
Beloved, as though for self we loved her not,
Beauty, the pure soul's everlasting pleasure.
Lo! sense and fancy serve that priestess here
With prisoned harmonies, with dulcet showers,
With webs of rainbow, marble traceries,
Dim blended imageries, and signs of powers!
Thus leaving her material temple then,
Who would not pray that she might guide his life
In Freedom's graces, like her insect minion,
Soul's type, while winging her fair ways unguessed?

FINIS.

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